Hello 5th grade parents!

We are looking forward to meeting you and your student in the fall! We have attached some information for you as you get ready to transition from your elementary school to Chiddix. You'll find the following in this email:

This letter from our school nurse on physicals and immunizations.
1. Additional information on school physicals and immunizations.
2. A video from our Chorus teacher (View Video Here)
3. The form you will need to complete with your 5th grade student for their music/tutorial selection for their 6th grade year (Complete form HERE)
This video explains Unit 5 policies and procedures regarding 1:1 devices.

If you have any questions at all, please reach out to us - we are happy to help in any way we can!

Jim Allen, Principal
Wendy Davis, Assoc. Principal
Nicole Wiedman, Counselor A-L
Carlie Newton, Counselor M-Z

Additional information regarding Math courses and placement as well as 1:1 technology is included on the pages that follow.
Due to the state mandated school closure, the District has had to reconsider the process for determining 6th grade math placements for the 2020-2021 school year. Please review the updated FAQ, and if you have questions please contact the principal of the middle school your child will be attending.

Middle School Math FAQ

❖ What are the math courses for sixth graders?

_math_6 – 6th grade Illinois Learning Standards_

This course covers all the 6th grade Illinois Learning Standards. Students will cover multiple concepts in great depth so that a broad foundation of skills are established prior to moving into 7th grade.

_math Accelerated A – 6th grade and half of 7th grade Illinois Learning Standards_

Students enrolled in this course will move more rapidly through the 6th grade learning standards and through part of the 7th grade learning standards. This course is for students that consistently score ABOVE the 70th percentile on MAP and have learner characteristics that support learning in an accelerated environment.

_math Accelerated B – Half of 7th grade and all of 8th grade Illinois Learning Standards_

Students enrolled in this course will actually skip 6th grade math content and move directly into the 7th grade curriculum. This course is reserved for students that consistently score ABOVE the 90th percentile on Math MAP and have extensive math knowledge as well as the ability to move rapidly through new material. This course is intended for students that may be interested in math or science related fields as these students will be ready for Algebra II their freshman year, Pre-Calculus their sophomore year, and AP Calculus their junior year, and Calculus III their senior year. Students in this track may also consider an alternative option for math their senior year (at local college/University or virtual coursework).

❖ How will my child’s 6th grade math course be determined?

Fifth grade math teachers provide basic information to the middle school math building chairs. The information includes grades, standardized scores from MAP as well as anecdotal information regarding the pace in which students learn new material. *Chairs will be looking for trend data to show students consistently perform above the 90th percentile to be placed in the most rigorous math course, Math Accelerated B. Similar benchmarks will be used to recommend students for Math Accelerated A as well. Please note a stand-alone MAP score does not constitute placement into a particular course but rather consistent performance (multiple data points) on standardized measures (MAP) will guide placement decisions.*
*Due to the recent state mandated school closure, the District suspended spring MAP testing that normally takes place in April/May. In the absence of math scores from this spring’s MAP assessment, middle school math building chairs will review and consider trend data from previous MAP assessments including this school year’s fall and winter scores.

❖ What is the sequence of courses if a student starts in each of the courses listed above?

Math 6 ➔ Math 7 ➔ Math 8
Math Accelerated A ➔ Math Accelerated B ➔ Algebra
Math Accelerated B ➔ Algebra ➔ Honors Geometry

❖ Is it possible for a student to jump to a different sequence of courses? When might this occur?

Yes, occasionally there are students whose MAP scores show a large increase the following year so a placement change occurs. Additionally, some students, regardless of MAP scores, may move quickly through material and provide evidence to the teacher that they can handle a faster paced course. This move must be supported by the teacher. There has also been movement at the semester based on what the teacher has seen from a student in class.

❖ If parents would like to request a different placement, what is the process?

Please review the information and process regarding Subject Matter Acceleration found within the District’s Curriculum and Instruction site under Students and Parents, or use the link provided to directly access the form. [https://drive.google.com/file/d/19t2ScpBtFDMsVxpdl6vysVvyq9EkVrq-B/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19t2ScpBtFDMsVxpdl6vysVvyq9EkVrq-B/view)

After Fall MAP tests are complete, teachers, the math building chair, and the principal will consider each request. This allows teachers to get to know the student and complete other assessments before responding to the request. Final placements will be based on data and determined by teacher and principal recommendation.

❖ If a student is placed in Math Accelerated A or Math Accelerated B (any accelerated course) are they automatically placed in the next course in the accelerated sequence?

There are established exit criteria that will show if students are ready for another accelerated course. Teachers will consider both MAP scores at the end of the year as well as grades to determine if a student should continue in the accelerated track or be moved to a more appropriate course.

*Placement recommendations for 8th graders must be made after December MAP scores/1st semester grades since high school course selections occur in January for the following academic year.
Technology - 1:1

For more information about Unit 5 1:1 technology, please click on the link below to view the video.

6th Grade Orientation 20/21